



THE CITY OF MONTREAL.

OUR CATHEDRALS  
AND CHURCHES.NO. 6 - CHRIST CHURCH  
CATHEDRAL, MONTREAL.

**I**N 1766, the Rev. David C. Delisle arrived from England to take charge of the Church in Montreal. In 1789, a church building was fitted up by him and his congregation; and on the suggestion of the Bishop of Nova Scotia, it was called "Christ Church."

expenditure in his household, moving to a small dwelling and submitting to the discomfort of rigid economy. Thus do the clergy often submit to personal sacrifice on account of burdens, which a wealthy laity could easily relieve. The bishop lived, however, to see much reward for his self-denial, as the debt was greatly diminished, if not entirely liquidated, before his death.

In 1859, the Diocesan Synods of Quebec, Toronto, and Montreal, petitioned Her Majesty to appoint one of the Canadian bishops to "preside over the General Assemblies of the Church in the Province," the result of which was that Bishop Fulford was appointed Metropolitan of Canada, with Montreal as the metropolitan see, and in 1861 the first Provincial Synod was organized, and held in that city.

The first suggestion to hold a "Pan-Anglican" Synod,—a Synod which was to embrace representative churchmen of the Anglican communion, throughout the world, came from the newly formed ecclesiastical Province of Canada. In this great assembly, which was duly held in England, the Metropolitan of Canada took a prominent part; but on his return to Montreal, in 1868, he gave unmistakable signs of failing health, and on the ninth of September, 1868, while the Provincial Synod was in session, the good bishop, at the close of the day, quietly passed to his place in the Church at rest. He had arrived in Montreal on the twelfth of September, 1850, and on the same day, eighteen years afterwards, his remains were placed in the quiet earth. All classes of people mourned his loss. The tolling of the bell of the Anglican Cathedral was answered by the tolling of the great bell of the Roman Catholic Church of Notre Dame, as a sorrowing procession followed his remains to the Cemetery of Mount Royal, there to rest till the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible.

STATISTICS compiled from the official Year-Book of the Church of England, clearly show that she is the greatest voluntary Church in the land, that the free-will offerings of her people to missions, church extension and support far exceed those of what are known as the voluntary churches.

At his death, the Rev. James Tunstall was appointed to the vacant incumbency by the King. In 1801, the Rev. Dr. Mountain, brother of the first bishop of Quebec, succeeded Mr. Tunstall, and in 1803, Christ Church was destroyed by fire. The corner stone of a new Christ Church was laid in 1805.

This corner stone bore the following inscription:—

**"Glory be to God:**

"Of this sacred edifice, raised upon ground granted for that purpose, by our Most Gracious Sovereign, George III. by the pious exertions of the Protestant inhabitants of this city, and dedicated to the service of Almighty God, according to the establishment of the Church of England, this corner stone was laid by Jacob, Lord Bishop of Quebec, on the 21st day of June, in the year of our Lord, 1805."

After many delays, the church was opened for worship in 1814. Our illustration gives a good idea of the style of architecture of this church. It was 120 feet in length, by 80 in width, exclusive of the chancel, which was 40-feet in width, and only 12 feet deep,—to which the chancel of the present Cathedral certainly forms a marked contrast, as it is of unusual length.

In 1815, the Rev. Dr. Mountain died, and was succeeded by his curate, the Rev. John Leeds. In 1820, Royal Letters Patent were issued, constituting the Rectory of Montreal, with Christ Church as its parish church, and appointing the Rev. John Bethune, Rector of Montreal, with perpetual succession. In 1850, Royal Letters were issued, constituting the Diocese of Montreal, appointing Dr. Fulford as its Bishop, and ordaining that "Christ Church should thenceforth be the Cathedral Church of the said Bishop of Montreal and his successors." In 1856, the Cathedral was burned down, and was soon afterwards rebuilt, mainly through the exertions of Bishop Fulford. It is a large and beautiful building, said to be by far the finest specimen of Gothic architecture in British North America. It stands in the best part of the city, and is surrounded by extensive and beautiful grounds, in which the houses of the bishop and rector are situated. The chancel is at the east end, underneath the tower. Dean Bethune died in 1872, and was succeeded in the rectory by the Rev. Maurice S. Baldwin. By Statutes of